Statement

Number of job-seekers on live register of employment exchanges classified by education level and sex in Punjab-1988, 1989 and 1990

(In thousands)

Education level	Number on live register 1988		1989		1990	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
1. Below Matriculates	278.0	26.2	268.5	32.2	244.7	23.8
2. Matriculates	182.9	34.7	191.2	36.3	249.7	52.1
3. Higher Secondary/Intermediates	44.2	9.2	49.2	10.2	57.9	14.2
4. Graduates & above	71.0	29.4	75.4	31.2	103.6	47.0
TOTAL	576.1	99.4	584.3	108.9	656.0	137.1

Changes in Labour Laws

1591. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring about changes in the labour laws;

(b) if so, the details of the changes likely to be made in the labour laws;

(c) whether Government have consulted State Governments before making any changes in the labour laws; and

(d) if so, to what extent the changes in the labour laws would curb exploitation of labour?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (d) The legislative proposals in brief are as follows:

(i) The Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services), Bill, 1988: The Bill seeks to improve working conditions of the building and other construction workers. It was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 5-12-1988.

(ii) *Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment and Conditions of Service)* Bill, 1990: It seeks to extend the coverage of Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 to employees working in godowns and warehouses and to improve the working conditions of the workers covered by the proposed bill. The bill was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 30-5-1990.

(iii) *Plantation Labour (Amendment)* Bill, 1992: The Bill seeks to provide for better welfare facilities, safety provisions to plantation labour and deterrent penal provisions for non-implementation of the welfare provisions of the Act. It was introduced in Rajya Sabha on May 7, 1992.

Apart from the above pending bills it is proposed to amend the following Acts:—

(i) The Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 for purposes of introduction of a pension scheme for subscribers of the provident fund.

(ii) Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 to provide for increased compensation in case of disability and death arising out of employment.

(iii) Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 to increase the ceiling on gratuity and to enhance eligibility limit. Consultations with the State Governments are invariably done wherever necessary. In some cases, the proposals for amendment are discussed in tripartite for a where representatives of State Governments are present.

All the proposed amendments are expected to extend enhanced benefits to the workers.

Revision of Minimum Wages

1592. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to revise the minimum wages after every two years and the variable dearness allowance after every 6 months; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal under consideration is to revise the minimum wages at intervals not exceeding two years unless the minimum rates of wages so fixed or revised consist of a component of Variable Dearness Allowance. The proposal is yet to be finalised.

Recruitment of People by Private Firms for Jobs Abroad

1593. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of private firms are recruiting people for jobs abroad;

(b) if so, whether Government's attention has been drawn to several frauds committed by some private firms during the job seekers; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to take over the business of recruiting people for jobs abroad?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) Under the Emigration Act, 1983 only the Recruiting Agents registered with the Ministry of Labour are authorised to conduct the business of recruitment of persons for employment abroad. Complaints against unauthorised Recruiting Agents as and when received, are referred to the police for investigation and further appropriate action is taken.

(c) No, Sir.

Prohibition of Child Labour

1594. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to identify some more industries in which child labour has to be prohibited; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) Addition to the Schedule under section 3 of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 is a continuing process. Section 5(1) of the Act provides for Child Labour Technical Advisory Committee to